

Cal 17899

MAY 19 1922

P A R I S E T T E

5th EPISODE:- THE TRACK.

No; indeed there was no mistake: it was the button missing on Cogolin's tunic which had been found near the body of the strangled old lady. Strong in his opinion, the officer was pressing Parisette with questions when one of the policemen found, in the casket where Binoclard had put them, some of the stolen jewels. Suspicions, then, became certainties. Suddenly the door bell rang. Thinking it was her uncle coming back, feeling relieved, Parisette exclaimed: "it is him returning, he will answer you". But it was her fiance who was immediately apprehended, but, like Parisette, his answers could not extenuate the accusation against Cogolin.

Whilst the sweethearts, innocent and dismayed, remained under a police agent's supervision, the culprits, Lapusse and Binoclard were finishing an excellent lunch by the river side. This lunch was to have a somewhat unpleasant ending for the latter. During their walk along the river, Binoclard was imprudent enough to say he could not swim. Lapusse, treacherously pushed over into the river where he disappeared.

A little later the consequences of the old lady's murder reached Mrs. Stefan. It was near the end of the meal when the police inspector, come in the morning, asked to see the Banker and told him of the result, so far, of his enquiry and gave him the proofs of Cogolin's culpability. How explain the Receiver's disappearance if he ignored the crime? Could there have been any leakage at the Bank? Was any one else there aware of the affair? The Banker declared that he had spoken of it to no one but his wife. Mrs. Stefan interrogated said she knew Cogolin to be a very good man whose uprightness she could never doubt, she certainly had told him nothing as she had not been out during the morning.

The officer had not been gone a few minutes when a footman brought Mrs. Stefan's hand bag forgotten on a seat of the Montparnasse terminus. Mr. Stefan, suspicious, questioned his wife. Why had she lied? Mrs. Stefan gave her husband a fairly plausible explanation, but, nevertheless, doubt remained in the Banker's mind. Since Cogolin's affair, were not all possible suppositions allowed?

The Marquess of Constabella also was affected by the tragedy. He had Maria and Candida that just as they had known Manola, they would see her again. The appointed meeting hour had long since gone and the so much awaited visitors had not come. It is only when the Marquess learned of the tragedy that he understood the reason of their not coming.

SSP-21 YAM

Cogolin had not come to the end of his troubles. When, in the train, a traveling companion saw him so deeply asleep he could not resist the temptation to relieve him of his pocket-book, seen peeping out of his pocket, and came out next station thinking little and caring less about what would happen to Cogolin, whom, when he woke up, knew the despair of finding himself without money in a strange place where his first care was to hide.

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